

DATA COLLECTION CHANGES REGARDING PARENTALLY PLACED PRIVATE SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

This document outlines changes that will be put in place for the 2005-2006 school year 1) to the December 1 child count collection on Screen 11, and 2) to collect additional data on private school children evaluated, found eligible and served, as directed by IDEA04.

- 1) Child count of students eligible and receiving special education and related services on December 1, collected on Screen 11 of Core Data** – Changes made to Screen 11 will depend on when/if OSEP's proposed data collection changes are made. The proposed OSEP change removes private school children served by the public district from the existing placement categories (primarily the "Outside Regular...." categories) and reports them in a separate category labeled "Parentally Placed in Private Schools." If this change is made final, it is likely that DESE will add two placement categories for private school children served by the reporting district:

- Parentally Placed in Private Schools – Resident of District
- Parentally Placed in Private Schools – Nonresident of District

If the proposed OSEP changes are not made, the DESE may still add additional categories such that private school children can be separated from public school children on Screen 11, while allowing the private school children to be reported in the current appropriate placement category (primarily the "Outside Regular..." categories).

A decision on changes to Screen 11 will be made shortly after final OSEP data collections are released for the 2005-2006 school year. This is not anticipated happen until September or October 2005.

- 2) New data collection for private school students evaluated, found eligible and served during the school year** – Section 612(a)(10) of IDEA04 requires that each local educational agency maintain in its records and provide to the State the number of children evaluated, the number of children determined to be children with disabilities and the number of children served. Districts will need to submit these counts to DESE at the end of each school year using a format that is yet to be determined. Descriptions for the three data elements follow:
- a. Number of children evaluated – This is the total number of parentally placed private school students that were evaluated by the public school during the school year (July 1 – June 30). This is the universe of children that the following two numbers are based upon.
 - b. Number of children determined to be children with disabilities – OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EVALUATED DURING THE YEAR (previous number determined in a.), this is the number that were determined to be eligible for special education services. This is not the total number of eligible private school students in the district's jurisdiction, it is only those evaluated and found eligible during the school year.
 - c. Number of children served – OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN DETERMINED TO BE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (previous number determined in b.), this is the number who received special education or related services through the public school. This is not the total number of private school students served, it is only those who were evaluated and found eligible and served during the school year.

Instructions for reporting this data will be provided to districts later in the year, but districts need to develop a system for collecting the data immediately.